COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

(ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL, DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR CIP)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

TYPE OF DECLARATION

This declaration is of the following type: (check one)

[X] original
[] design

(check one, if applicable)
[] national stage of PCT
[] supplemental

[] divisional
[] continuation
[] continuation-in-part (CIP)

INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

TITLE OF INVENTION

VALVE ASSEMBLY

SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION

the specification of which: (complete (a), (b) or (c)) is attached hereto. [X] was filed on __ (b) [] as [] Serial No. or [] Express Mail No., as Serial No. not yet known. and was amended (if applicable). was described and claimed in PCT International Application (c) [] No. filed on and as amended under PCT Article 19 on (if any).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal R gulations \$1.56(a).

FOREIGN PRIORITY CLAIM

[] I hereby claim foreign priority ben fits under Title 35, U.S.C. \$119 of any foreign application(s) for pat nt r inventor's certificat or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

(complete (d) or (e))

- (d) [X] no such applications have been filed.
- (e) [] such applications have been filed as follows

EARLIEST FOREIGN APPLICATIONS(S), IF ANY FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS U.S. APPLICATION

COUNTRY APPLICATION NO. DATE OF FILING PRIORITY CLAIMED (month, day, year) UNDER 35 USC 119

ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS U.S. APPLICATION

CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF EARLIER U.S./PCT APPLICATION(S) UNDER 35 U.S.C. \$120

[] I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code \$120 of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of ach of the claims of this application is not disclosed in those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. \$120, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. \$1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

Prior U.S. Application(s) or PCT International Application(s) Designating the U.S. For Benefit Under 35 U.S.C. §120.

U.S. APPLICATIONS

Serial No.

Filing Date

Status (issued, pending or abandoned)

PCT APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S.

PCT Application No.

PCT filing date

U.S. Serial Nos. assigned Status (patented, pending, abandoned)

(if any)

POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a named inventor, I her by appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all busin ss in the Pat nt and Trademark Office connected therewith. (List name and registration number)

JOHN C. ANDRES, Reg. No. 30,931; NEIL D. GERSHON, Reg. No. 32,225; BASAM E. NABULSI, Reg. No. 31,645; MARK FARBER, Reg. No. 34,159; and CAROLYN H. BLANKENSHIP, Reg. No. 35,449; each of them of United States Surgical Corporation, 150 Glover Avenue, Norwalk, Connecticut 06856.

PETER G. DILWORTH, Reg. No. 26,450; ROCCO S. BARRESE, Reg. No. 25,253; DAVID M. CARTER, Reg. No. 30,949; PAUL J. FARRELL, Reg. No. 33,494; PETER DELUCA, Reg. 32,978; ADRIAN T. CALDERONE, Reg. No. 31,746; GEORGE M. KAPLAN, Reg. No. 28,375; JEFFREY S. STEEN, Reg. No. 32,063; JOSEPH W. SCHMIDT, Reg. No. 36,920; RAYMOND E. FARRELL, Reg. No. 34,816; RUSSELL R. KASSNER, Reg. No. 36,183; FRANK CHAU, Reg. No. 34,136; CHRISTOPHER G. TRAINOR, Reg. No. 39,517; GEORGE LIKOUREZOS, Reg. No. 40,067; JAMES M. LOEFFLER, Reg. No. 37,873; WILLIAM E. LEWIS, Reg. No. 39,274, JOHN G. TUTUNJIAN, Reg. No. 39,405; JAMES J. BITETTO, Reg. No. 40,513; and MARK S. LEONARDO, Reg. No. 41,433, each of them of DILWORTH & BARRESE, 333 Earle Ovington Boulevard, Uniondale, New York 11553.

Send Correspondence to

Direct Telephone Calls To: (Name and telephone number)

John C. Andres United States Surgical Corporation 150 Glover Avenue Norwalk, Connecticut 06856 John C. Andres (203) 845-4018

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements mad on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

SIGNATURE(S)
Full name of sole or first inventor loseph Pasqualucci
Inventor's signature
Inventor's signature Country of Citizenship U.S.A.
Residence 91 Scrub Oak Road, North Haven, Connecticut 06743
Post Office Address 91 Scrub Oak Road, North Haven, Connecticut 06743
Full name of second inventor
Inventor's signature
Date Country of Citizenship
Residence
Post Office Address
[] Check here for added signature pages for third and subsequent inventors. Number of added pages is